

FREE



AND
WORTH
IT!!!

so andy, did you hear about this one? it's another issue of.....

CULTURE CRINGE

murfreesboro's provider of the weird and cool since 2012



HEY MOON!

IT'S THE
SPRING
ISSUE
OF 2026



INCLUDES INTERVIEW WITH JOBI RICCIO!

"THERE'S A MOON IN THE SKY (CALLED THE MOON)"

I figured it was high time I made a zine that had some thoughts about one of my best friends in the world, **THE MOON**. And boy oh boy do I have some thoughts. **HEY MOON!**

I need to first address something that I think about often, and that is about Micheal Collins and his role in the July 1969 Apollo 11 moon landing mission. While Armstrong and Aldrin were on the surface, he had the job of being **COMPLETELY ALONE** on the command module while it orbited the moon. So I think about this a lot, how incredibly terrifying that could be (although he **CLAIMS** he wasn't scared at all)....but imagine being in that position. In that primitive heap of metal hurling through space alone, the darkness, the **SOUNDS** he must have heard. Was it dead quiet? Did it sound like a 1950s coupe barreling down the highway in high winds? Rattling, shaking, jolting? **WOULD YOU DO IT?** I mean of course I would, I'm asking **YOU**. Let me know on instagram or send me an email at culturecringemedia@gmail.com

"If you believe there's nothing up his sleeve then nothing is cool"

I love how stoked we get about full moons these days, and how we are now aware of the various names and how rare certain types of full moons are. I like it when they have wild names like the **WOLF MOON** or the **cat moon** or **pink moon** or **blood moon**. When I was younger no one ever discussed the different types of full moons - **HELL** we barely knew when it was time for a full moon in general. I like the collective excitement of knowing that a special moon is coming up and planning on taking time to view it. **TRYING** to take a pic of it and realizing that its *nearly impossible* to do with an iphone. **But we will try and try again and again.**

There are other moons in our system that come super close to resembling our planet. I think my favorite would be **Titan**, which orbits **Saturn**. It has an atmosphere and rivers and mountains and good stuff like that. I might go there some day. My second favorite, of course, is **Europa**. It has a ton of water on it apparently. I most absolutely **WILL NOT** go there some day, because I saw that movie **Europa Report**. I'm no dummy. My third, and final favorite is **Neso** which orbits **Neptune**. I bet you done forgot about Neptune, didn't you. It's ok cos everyone does from time to time. Neso is the most isolated moon in the system, which I guess means it's the most isolated object in the system? Not sure on that...I'll check and get back to you. Oh damn so back to Neso...it orbits Neptune but at a distance of 30 million miles. So I guess Neptune looks pretty small from it's perspective. I wouldn't mind going there..but only for a brief stop. **I think it would be a sad place to be.**

Of course, this zine was brought on due to the excitement of the recent **Artemis II** mission that is going on during the time that I'm assembling this very issue. I think it's so cool that it's happening. Exciting. I hope that you are all excited about it as well. I was hoping that it would make the front page of the newspaper in the same way that the **Apollo** missions did back in their day, but alas, it did not. It has hopefully made it onto your algorithm. If it hasn't, maybe do some searches for information on it and jump start some suggestions in your feed.

"AND I'M OUTSIDE IN THE DARK STARING AT THE BLOOD RED MOON, REMEMBERING THE HOPES AND DREAMS I HAD AND ALL I HAD TO DO"

I'm going to leave a little space here for you to do an exercise where you write down your favorite songs about the moon, or that just have moon in the title. I will tell you right now that my fave is probably **MOON RIVER** - the Audrey Hepburn version - and that's what I would want to listen to while either orbiting the moon alone in the command module, or spending a few minutes on Neso trying to see if I can even **SEE Neptune** in the distance.

INTERVIEW

WITH

JOBI RICCIO



JOBI RICCIO'S DEBUT ALBUM, WHIPLASH, REALLY MADE SOME WAVES IN 2023. NOW, HER FOLLOW UP FACE THE FEELING IS COMING OUT IN MAY...AND LEMME TELL YA - FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD, IT'S GONNA BE A MUST-OWN ALBUM. I WAS SUPER EXCITED WHEN SHE AGREED TO DO A Q&A... SO I'LL QUIT WASTING TIME AND LET YOU GET ON WITH IT!!!

original photo credit: Rett Rogers

CC: Were you ever in any bands, like when you were younger or have you always been a solo artist with your music?

Jobi: I've mostly been a solo artist with a few exceptions: as a teenager I played guitar, mandolin, and sang in local cover bluegrass bands around Colorado where I grew up. I also was in a duo with a friend in high school and picked up some gigs as a side person playing bass and electric guitar for a few friends around Nashville when I first moved here in 2021. However, I've long harbored a secret dream to be a bassist in a punk band.

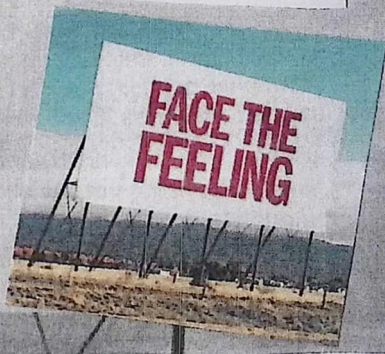
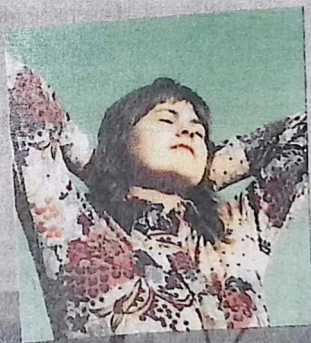


CC: Your second album, **Face The Feeling**, drops on May 15th. How was the writing / recording / studio experience in making it? Was it a lot different than the experience of making your first album **Whiplash**?

Jobi: In some ways it was very different, and others, not so much. Isaiah Beard, Jesse Timm (who's based in NYC) and myself all met in college and have been working on my music as a kind of collective since Whiplash, including all the bonus singles in between the two projects. We had a lot of freedom to play around and great studios to work out of on both records. The writing on Face The Feeling's songs leans heavier into my rock influences than my last record, so there was a new palette to draw from, and we did a lot more rabbit hole-ing on guitar tones and vocal distortion and amazing things like that than we did on Whiplash. We also recorded Whiplash during spring 2021 and had to social distance from the rhythm section and did many overdubs remotely. On Face the Feeling, we hired Paul Defiglia (bass) and Dom Billet (drums) to be our rhythm section and wanted a more live rock band / power trio feeling on many of the songs which brought out great performances from everyone and was 100% Isaiah's idea. It's another way this new record stands out from the last sonically and in my memory as I was physically able to be around more people in its creation which I really enjoyed.

CC: I read in your bio that you moved to Nashville a while back from Colorado. Does living here help inspire you creatively with your songwriting, or is it just a great place to be location and business wise?

Jobi: It depends on the season honestly. Currently I am very inspired by Nashville, specifically the music scene, and I am finding myself writing more and going out to shows. But I have seasons where I take all of it for granted because I'm simply burned out. This tends to happen if I am touring a lot and straight up tired and/or visiting cities with things I often yearn for from a lifestyle perspective living here like better public transit, sidewalks, outdoor access (I'm thinking of places like Asheville and out west when I say this, don't get me wrong I love Shelby Park!) I think Nashville also is a really good place to be located business wise specifically for touring. Part of why I initially moved here is because Colorado is so geographically hard to tour out of and so wildly unaffordable on an artist's income.



CC: When it comes to writing songs: I know you spend a lot of time on the road. Can you write while on the road touring, in hotel rooms, in the van, places like that? Or do you reserve writing for when you're alone in your workspace?

Jobi: I wish I was more disciplined about this for sure. I can, but it's a struggle. I have written in hotel rooms, but I have to be alone. Often on tour I just write lyrics separately from music and I do so on my phone vs. in my journal so I can move things around and do it on the go and it's usually ideas I came up with while back at home. However one glorious time I started writing a song (that I still need to finish) in the green room at Tipitina's in New Orleans and I felt like a really cool road dog musician.

Jobi: I love this question! I spent all of January and February 2025 exploring the idea of hobbies because I realized I was way too addicted to my phone and didn't do anything other than go to my day job, look at my phone, and then go to sleep. And then when I was on tour it was similar except I would play a show. BOOO!

Reading! I try to alternate fiction with nonfiction. My favorite book I read last year was either *Digital Minimalism* by Cal Newport or *Demon Copperhead* by Barba Kingslover.

Running! I got into it about two years ago and it has been really helpful with bad chronic shoulder pain I've struggled with since I was a teenager and also managing stress. It's been a great way for me to get outside and move, especially on the road when I am often sitting for 5-10 hours and then have to go play and my body feels like it's made out of cement.

Movies! I am a Belcourt member and have a letterboxed (@moonstruckhoe) though I don't always update it. My favorite movie I saw last year was "Sentimental Values".

Hiking! A life long hobby and if I'm in an area with trails you can bet I'm doing everything I can to squeeze in a hike, even if I'm running down a mountain to make my load in (Done it many times).

Food: cooking and consuming! I love cooking for myself and friends, pretty much any and all kinds of food (to varying degrees of success), and I live to try a new restaurant. My favorite restaurants in Nashville are Jerusalem Reebar, King Tuts, SS Gai, Tutti Da Gio and Maiz de la Vida.

CC: Bonus question! Tell me about an album that you totally cherish and consider to be a "perfect 10." A top to bottom classic in your opinion. I want to listen to it!

Jobi: I'm a naturally indecisive person so it's a tie between "Life Labors in the Choir" and "Rare Feeling" both by Twain. I heard them both my freshman year of college and they completely changed my brain and heart, and have had such an impact on my music.

THANK YOU JOBI RICCIO! EVERYBODY BE SURE TO CHECK OUT
HER MUSIC - BUY THE ALBUMS - AND FACE THE FEELING DROPS MAY 15!
INSTAGRAM: @JOBIRICCIO WEB: JOBIRICCIO.COM

SLEEPING WITH THE RADIO ON

"or, an attempt to connect with others during a sleep induced state"

Ok - so I know that not too long ago i was going **ON AND ON AND ON** about sleeping with ambient sounds playing, and how it produced some pretty insane dreams and some **SOOPER** deep sleep. And then I started raving about my new internet radio and how that was the new big thing - like how I was letting the 24/7 **ENYA** station play all night and how I was having dreams about castles, mossy green mountains, and towering windmills. But **GUESS WHAT** now I've got a new thang, and it's a throwback to how I used to sleep when I was in high school.....I'm talking about the straight up **RADIO!** I'm talking about airwaves and tuning the dial to a station that I can pick up while **NOT USING** any sort of wifi or internet or anything like that. Turns out, doing that is producing some **REALLY** good sleep experiences. I love waking up randomly and catching a few moments of a song before drifting back off.

Now I'll disclose that I keep it at a **VERY** low volume. I have a pretty neat little Sangean radio (you should totally get one) on my headboard so it's close to my ears, and the volume is barely even turned up to "one." But what I like about it is that I feel sort of **CONNECTED** to others - because I'm sure there are other people out there doing the same thing and hearing the same exact broadcast from the same exact station. It's a sense of connection. It's like that Stereo MCs song "Connected," or the Elastica song "Connection." I have **NOT** heard either of those songs overnight yet. Which brings me to the station that I've found myself tuning into - it's a Murfreesboro based station and it's not **WMTS** - spoiler alert. It's **WMOT** and I wanna tell ya bout it.

WMOT ROOTS RADIO 89.5

WMOT has become my station of choice at night and even though I have known about the station for years, I just recently started checking it out. Here's what I like about listening to it during the overnight hours - in no particular order:

i like how there are no annoying commercials and the songs just sorta flow into the next, there are never any abrasive or annoying songs, lots of acoustic and traditional sounding tunes, sometimes overnight they play the syndicated "world cafe" show which plays all sorts of neat stuff, I've actually woken up at like 3 am and heard a song and thought "hmmmmmm what is this?" and next thing I knew I was straight up using **SHAZAM** on my phone to see who it was - and by doing so I've discovered some cool new music, and **OH YEAH** it's coming to me over the air and is pure and natural and not buffering or dependent on internet and that's a **HUGE** plus, and last (aye, certainly not least) I feel like (as I said earlier) that I'm connecting with others through a nearly 100 year old method of transmission - (the airwaves) and that makes my brain feel pretty awesome. **OH** and one night, this one old blues song made me have a dream about a human-size **CROW** that had large silver eyes (like the rabbit in "Donnie Darko") and it emitted a comforting, wise vibe. Then, I woke up and googled "human-size crow in dream" and was up for like, an hour reading about my fate. Pretty sure I just stayed up till the sunrise.

WINGING IT IS AN ART

I recently got to do something that I never thought I'd ever do. GIVE A LECTURE! And I'm not talking about a good old fashioned southern "talkin' to" type lecture to a friend or relative after they went and done something STOOPID.....I mean a real ACADEMIC style lecture where I talked for like an hour and gave a slide show presentation and took questions at the end. SOUND UNBELIEVABLE? Well it happened - and here's how it went down. I was asked MONTHS ago by the Nashville History Club to come do "a talk" at their weekly meetup. I said SURE, why not? I thought that it would be a casual, MAYBE 20 or so people event where we sipped tea and sat around on couches and stuff. YOU GET THE PICTURE. Well, I forgot about it.....until around mid-February. They reached back out to remind/confirm the date and that's when i learned that it was going to be in a bona-fide CONFERENCE ROOM with projection screens and.....GASP.....A PODIUM. Oh and there would be around 100 or so people there too, composed of mostly college professors, historians, and retired academics. COOL! Ok - don't freak out - you got this. OH SCREW THAT I had every reason to freak out and wig out. I suffer from insane imposter syndrome and doubt myself every step of the way. WHYYYYYYY would they want to hear what I had to say? WHYYYYY would they be interested in my research / efforts / story?? WHYYYYYYYY ok ok you get the picture. So here's what I did. I buckled down, and watched a few YOUTUBE vids on how to properly give a lecture. I made an outline, made note cards with talking points, put together a visual presentation. I STILL HAD NO IDEA what I as doing. But I've learned that winging it is an art, and I my friends, well, I'm a damn artist. I practiced my lecture twice. I just went with it. Then the day came and I rolled my happy ass up to Nashville and IT WAS THE WEIRDEST THING. I wasn't nervous. I dunno what happened. I just felt calm. Maybe it's because I knew the subject backwards and forwards? I guess that helps. The head of the organization introduced me, I walked up WITH A SWAGGER, lemme tell ya (I was also wearing my fave sweater) and you wanna know what the first thing I told them was? DO YA DO YA? I said.....and I quote. "I've never done anything like this before, and I should be nervous, but YOU ALL ARE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL CROWD, I feel great so let's do this." Yep. And then I proceeded to KILL. I sorta blacked out and KILLED it and next thing I knew I was getting an ovation and people lining up to talk to me after it was over. HOW? WHAT? I swear it happened. It was like the Twilight Zone.

I only have a little bit of space left in this issue, so here are some of my favorite pictures of Susan Dey from the Partridge Family for kicks



follow my instagram @culturecringe, thanks for picking this up, the end.